



Alzheimers Day  
September 2023

**Carolyn Cooper**  
**Aged Care Commissioner**



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# What we heard



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# Amplifying the voice of older people

- Connection and collaboration hui
  - 11 formal meetings
  - 3 key areas of focus –
    - dementia mate wareware
    - kaumātua wellbeing
    - HCSS, ARC, respite, carer support
- Start of a journey – baseline report – monitoring to come
- Many other key meetings with thousands of older people



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# Communication



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## Access to care

- Major lack of system wide strategy and planning for older people
- Partnership planning is needed (partners in care)
- Centralised systems to support coordinated care delivery – the ability to access clinical information by all caring for the consumer







# Options for and coordination of care

Aged friendly models of care

For example:

- prevent, diagnose, treat and empower people living with dementia mate wareware
- Improve consideration for cultural needs
- Look at regional needs for specialist dementia models of care including innovative home care and secure residential care
- Acknowledge and support whanau carers

Dementia mate wareware action plan initiatives



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# LIFESTYLE

RECREATION and  
SOCIAL CONNECTION



something to do using  
our hands

physical  
activity



3x30  
mins  
walking

2x20  
mins  
strength

strategies for  
copies and improving  
quality of life —  
keeping life fun and  
interesting



# SAFETY

Make sure  
they are safe  
at home

MY ALARM  
MEANS I CAN  
STAY IN MY  
OWN WHARE.

what is  
essential to  
make **LIVING WITH  
MATE WAREWARE** /  
dementia better for you and  
your whānau

Is there respite  
for carers?



# CARE

whānau need a  
break as well



Carers know  
their client  
and  
their culture





## Better data about older people

- Accessible and current age delineated data
- Gaps are problematic -age, disability, ethnicity, gender
- Key area of concern
  - Meaningful data on aged residential care, home and community support and the informal carers sector (whanau carers)



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# Workforce challenges

**Aged care workforce under significant pressure - unsustainable**

- Older people are high users of the health system
- Limited access to HCSS and ARC means longer stays in public hospitals
- Priority needed on retention and recruitment of nurses and support staff in HCSS and ARC facilities



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# Workforce sustainability

**Sustainable workforce = sustainable health and disability sector**

- Need a well-qualified workforce with numbers to provide care wherever and whenever it is required
- Fair remuneration for those working in the health sector
- Pay parity for nurses working in the aged care sector and community sector



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## Home and Community Support Services

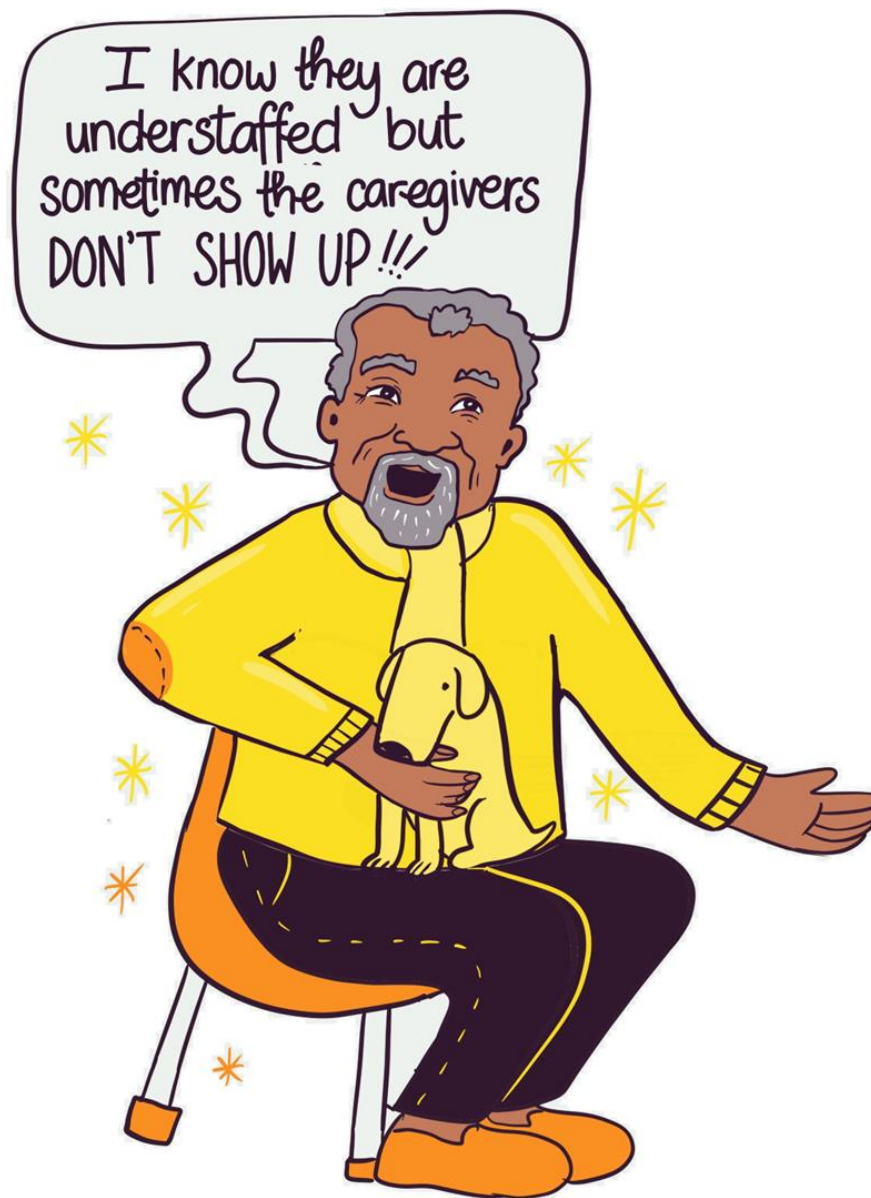
- Older people are living healthier longer lives, but demand for services will increase, and with greater complexity of need
- Regional and rural delivery challenges
- Pressure on community-based support – could increase if access to ARC facilities is limited
- Ensure quality delivery of these services to enable older people to live safe, independent lives







# Missed Care



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## Critical partners

- Primary care, home and community support services and aged care, are critical partners in the delivery of quality services
- Delivery of services that enable older people to live safely and independently will ease the pressure on the entire health system
- We need to unblock the health system to enable older people to age in their place of choice, and in supported care environments



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## Older people need / want to....

- have their voice amplified;
- and for them and their whānau to be **placed at the centre of the system**
- have access to services to enable them to **live independently and safely** and remain connected to their communities; and
- have **confidence in the quality of these services**



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**Any questions?**

